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16 MAY 1968

Copy 6 of 11

15 May 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Critique for OXCART Mission Number BX6858

1. Mission critique was conducted in the OSA Control Center at 1500 hours, 10 May 1968.

2. Mission Data:

- a. Mission Number: BX6858
- b. Date Flown: 6 May 1968
- c. Area of Operation: North Korea
- d. Mission Success: Successful
- e. Pilot's Name: [REDACTED]
- f. Aircraft Number: 127
- g. Primary or Spare Flown: Primary
- h. Takeoff Time - Planned: 0100Z
Actual: 0100Z
- i. Landing Time - Planned: 0428Z
Actual: 0430Z
- j. Time Enroute - Planned: 3+28
Actual: 3+30
- k. Departure Base: Kadena AB
- l. Landing Base: Kadena AB
- m. Equipment:

(1) Primary: TYPE I, [REDACTED]

(2) Spare: Same as primary.

Approved For Release 2002/11/22 : CIA-RDP69B00041R001800030004-3

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

Approved For Release 2002/11/22 : CIA-RDP69B00041R001800030004-3

Page 2

3. Operations:

a. Mission Generation & Operational Support: Satisfactory

b. Plans: Route (Actual vs. Planned): Satisfactory

(1) Total INS Nav Time: 4+06 Hours

(2) INS Terminal Error: 9.7 Nautical Miles

(3) INS Spec. Error: 8.9 Nautical Miles

c. Tactics (Planned vs. Actual): As briefed.

4. Weather:

a. Forecast vs. Actual: Worse than briefed.

b. Observed Cloud Condition:

(1) Pilot reported CAT I conditions on both passes with heavy haze over entire area.

(2) Photography: [] reported 20% cloud on first pass and 30% on second pass. Overall degradation was 50% due to clouds and haze.

c. Comments: Weather was worse than briefed due to haze condition which may have been intensified by thin cirrus clouds.

5. Materiel:

a. Aircraft General: Satisfactory

(1) Comments: Left windshield glazed inflight. Windshield has been replaced. []

[]

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TOP SECRET

b. Aircraft Systems: Satisfactory

(1) Comments: INS had excessive terminal error. System has been replaced.

(2) Resolution: Poor on photography effected by atmospherics. Estimated 18 to 20 inch resolution on non-effected photos.

(3) Camera Operation: Normal. SC & DM indicated camera in caged position during second pass over denied. Indication was false and wiring between camera and SC & DM recorder is being investigated to determine signal source.

6. Intelligence:

a. Target Coverage:

- (1) 66 of 77 programmed targets covered.
- (2) 3 SSM targets covered.
- (3) 68 of 125 COMIREX targets covered.
- (4) 15 SAM sites, 3 occupied, 1 unoccupied, 11 ID only.
- (5) 30 bonus targets.
- (6) Comments: The mission obtained poor to fair quality photography of the southern two-fifths of North Korea. Scattered clouds and haze affected approximately 50% of the photography.

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c. Significant Findings: None

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25X1

TOP SECRET

Approved For Release 2002/11/22 : CIA-RDP69B00041R001800030004-3

Page 4

e. Take Movement:

(1) Photography: Satisfactory

(3) Comments: The original negative was delayed at Andrews AFB in the movement to [] due to maintenance [] The film was rescheduled on a commercial flight and delivered to [] 8 May 1968 at 2250Z.

7. Communications:

a. Message Traffic: Satisfactory

b. []

c. UHF/HF Commo: Satisfactory

8. Significant Actions Taken:

Confidence flight accomplished on aircraft 127, 15 May 1968, to verify INS, camera caging [] systems operation. All systems operated normally except SC&DM tape - continued to reflect a false camera caged condition. Camera and SC&DM systems are being investigated to determine signal source.

9. Outstanding Actions Required:

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TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

Approved For Release 2002/11/22 : CIA-RDP69B00041R001800030004-3

25X1

Page 5

25X1

Chief, OXCART Division, OSA

25X1

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OXC/O/OSA/

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